



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY NEWS RELEASE

Department of Toxic Substances Control

T – 22 - 04

May 13, 2004

For Immediate Release

Contact: Jeanne Garcia

818.551.2176

Ron Baker

916.324.3142

\$35,000 Settlement Reached with The Dune Company and J.R. Simplot Company

Los Angeles --- The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced it has reached a settlement with The Dune Company (Dune) and J.R. Simplot Company (Simplot) for hazardous waste violations. Dune, which is a distributor of fertilizers and pesticides directly to farmers, is located at 2375 Clark Road in El Centro. Simplot is the owner of the property where the facility is located.

Under terms of the Stipulation and Consent Order (Order) signed in March 2004, Dune and Simplot will pay DTSC a total of \$35,000 as a civil penalty. A copy of the order is available at http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Dune/Dune_ENF_STIP_CO.pdf.

The settlement stems from violations observed by DTSC inspectors during on site inspections on March 6 and April 26, 2002. The following violations were noted:

- Disposal of hazardous waste at an unauthorized location
- Failure to have an Environmental Protection Agency identification number

As part of the settlement Dune and J.R. Simplot must remove all hazardous waste disposals on the ground. Dune must submit to DTSC status reports, plans, schedules, and samples. In addition, Dune and Simplot must notify DTSC in writing at least seven business days prior to the start of any removal work at the site.

Dune is also required to submit to DTSC in writing a proposal on how they will manage spills or releases of hazardous materials, including fertilizer materials and products, which may occur at the facility in the future. The plan shall specify what steps Dune will take to ensure compliance with hazardous waste laws and regulations.

###

The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.